

THE SUBURBAN CITIZEN.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Religious growth and progress show themselves in gentler manners, higher ideals, and more sympathy for those who are on the other side.

A Massachusetts correspondent of the Albany Country Gentleman, who wants all dogs, if not killed, restrained from running at large, says the flock of sheep on many a farm is to the farmer "just the difference between enough and not being able to live."

Bart Cable and Mary Gyrope were married at Moberly, Mo., the other day, the officiating clergyman being a Rev. Mr. Saylor. It will have to be admitted that Mr. Cable and Miss Gyrope displayed a thorough appreciation of the fitness of things when they called Mr. Saylor in to tie the knot.

The last one of nine reasons given by a leading spinster of Chicago why she had never married was, "He has not proposed." It would seem that the other eight were superfluous. Why spend time worrying because "He might like tidies" or "He might part his hair in the middle" when the dreadful necessity of decision seems never to have arrived?

It is not likely that the efforts of scientists and sociologists to secure a distinct designation for the people of the United States will meet with much success. We have been known as "Americans" for 250 years, and all efforts heretofore to change the title have met with failure. Americans we are, whether we like it or not, and Americans we will remain as long as the continent stands.

The Illinois Audubon Society for bird protection, now three years old, is the youngest but largest State association of the kind. It has nearly 10,000 enrolled members. Nearly all are children, there being about 800 adults, most of whom are residents of Chicago. A new Illinois statute makes it a misdemeanor, punishable by fine or imprisonment, for any person to have in his possession the body, living or dead, of any wild bird, the English sparrow, the crow and the chicken hawk excepted.

The United States having completed its war with Spain it has ratified the Hague treaty for the substitution of arbitration for war. Holland being too small to fight anything except the East Indian aborigines has ratified this measure of universal peace. England is too busy carrying on war in South Africa to attend to this matter at present. France, Germany, Russia, Austria and Japan feel that they must be a little better prepared for war before they engage to submit their quarrels to arbitration, and the increase of fleets and rearmament of artillery forces proceeds, remarks the New York Journal of Commerce.

Harvard University is establishing the three-year course for a degree in place of the time-honored and universal four-year course. President Eliot says that "any young man with fair abilities can now procure the degree in three years without hurry and overwork, if he wishes to do so, or if his parents wish him," and this opinion is amply borne out by recent statistics. For, at the present time, nearly two-fifths of the whole number of students, or 231 who are graduated, are credited in three years with sixteen or more courses. The President further states that "within a comparative short time the majority of those who enter the freshman class will come to college with the purpose of completing the requirements of the college in three years."

A further and final test of the Kearsarge's main battery has set at rest all doubts as to the stability of the vessel and the structural strength of the superimposed turrets. The tremendous shock from the simultaneous detonation of full service charges in four thirteen-inch and four eight-inch guns was sustained by the ship without the slightest indication of weakness at any point. No such ordeal would be possible in actual warfare, although it might be safely undergone. There is scarcely a dissenting voice among the naval experts in regard to the supreme value of the new design, and it is expected that the superimposed turret system will now be applied to the three battleships in course of construction, as well as all other future creations of this class for the American navy.

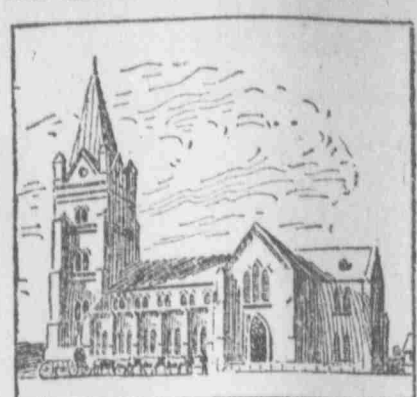
Pretoria and Her Seven Forts

How the Capital of the Boers Has Been Fortified.

Pretoria, capital of the Transvaal, is a country town, asleep back of mountain walls and the frowning guns of seven modern forts. Here, unless all present indications fail and the war ends earlier than men expect, the Boers will make their last stand against the English and endure a possibly lengthy and bloody siege before capitulation.

On three sides of Pretoria the mountain ranges rise to elevations of 1000 and 2000 feet above the streets of the city, which itself is 4500 feet above

structures represent the genius of four nations.

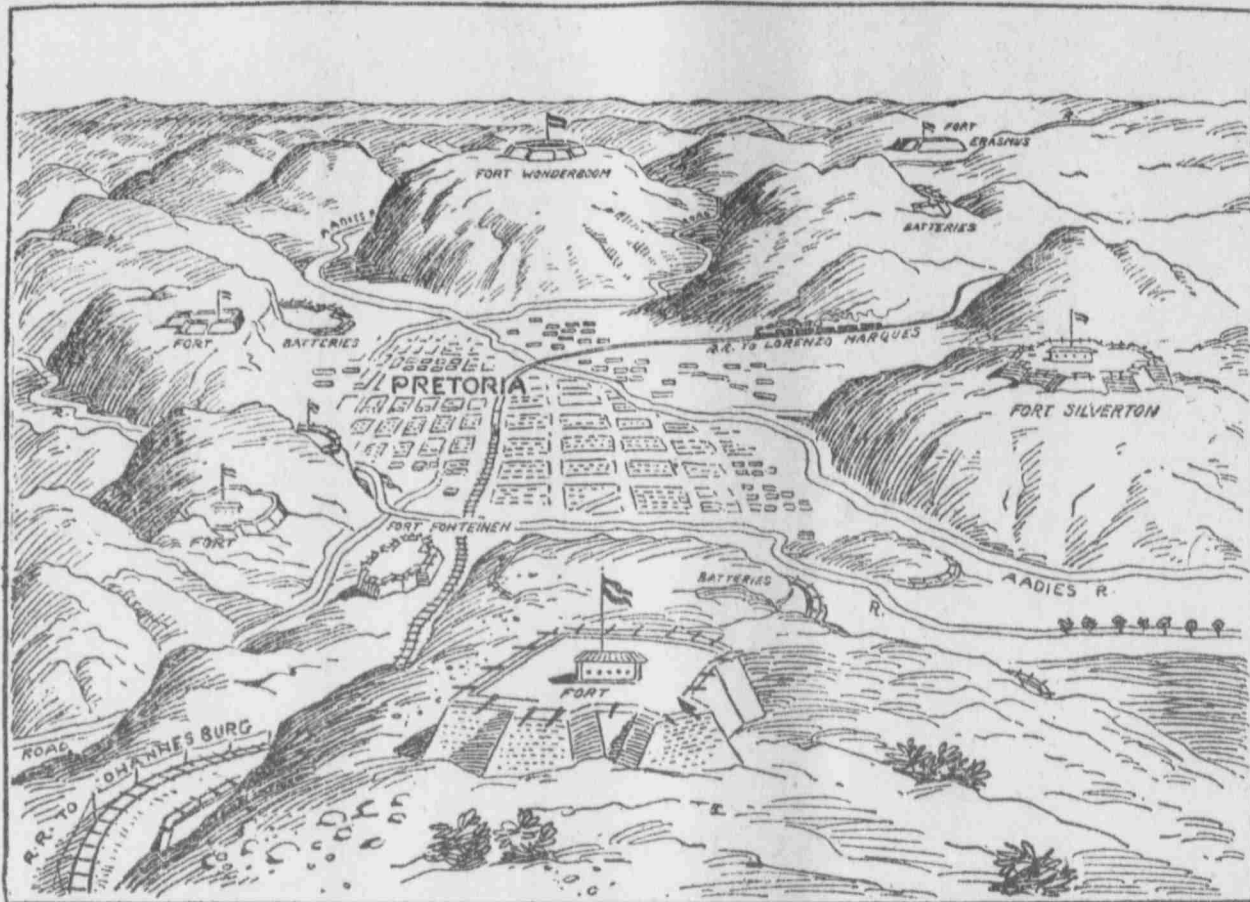


PRES. KRUGER'S CHURCH AT PRETORIA. (Here he holds services, exhorting the Boers who drive in from miles around in their ox-carts.)

No one just knows—or will admit knowing—the inward mechanisms of

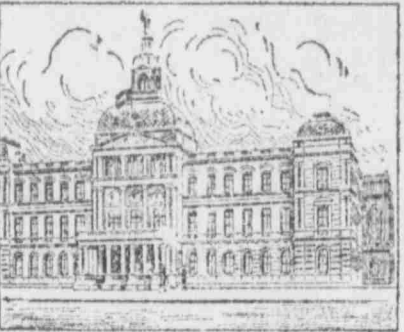
running together across the plain from the center of Pretoria.

Both river and railway pass under the guns of a large fort 21,000 feet from the center of Pretoria. The westernmost fort is on the range of hills behind Pretoria, and lies at a distance of 31,000 feet from the city's center. There is a powerful redoubt to the southwest on the range of hills through which the transport road to Johannesburg passes. This completes, with various earth batteries, the circle of the larger works defending the Boer capital. Behind the great redoubt are the principal magazines, one excavated out of the solid rock, with a bombproof roof, and the other built into the kloof, also bombproof. Communication between the redoubt and the last-mentioned magazine is by means of a covered way. Roads connect all these forts with the capital, and they have pipes laid for water, as well as electric lights for the search lights.



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL DEFENSES OF PRETORIA.

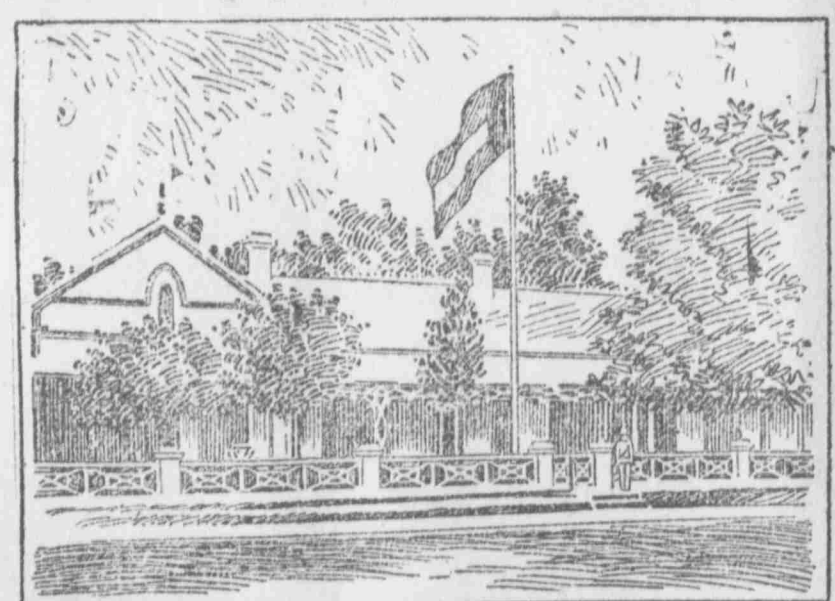
sea level, but 1100 feet lower than the site of Johannesburg to the south. On the fourth side—the south and facing the approach from Johannesburg—the range flattens away to a vast and level plateau, treeless, desolate, exposed at every point to the sweep of any guns that may command it. The town is 1080 miles from Cape Town, fifty from Johannesburg. On the map it seems as easy of approach as a prairie village in Nebraska. But the map topographer fails to present the lofty, barren hills that face the south plateau, the



THE RAAD HOUSE, PRETORIA.

precipitous banks of Apies River, the narrow gorges—so few in number—the innumerable "spion" or lookout kopjes that seem literally to leap from the bosom of the plain and suddenly, silently oppose access to the capital city.

You look up to the mountain fronts as your train struggles to find its way into Pretoria and wherever the eye rests there appears to be the lines of a fort, a redoubt, the front of masked batteries or the domes of bombproof rifle and cannon pits. To the north, east, west and south these engirdle the city. They command the few—very few—narrow entrances to Pretoria. They watch like great dogs the dusty, sun-rotted veldt over which any English troops coming from the south must pass. They blink at the one railroad to Johannesburg and the one to Lorenzo Marques. They face the north at Windhoek and guard the ways to Beersheba, Hebron and Polonia. Their location has been with purpose. Captain Schiel, now an English prisoner, constructed the one at Daarpoort from plans obtained in Berlin. He brought special assist-



PRESIDENT KRUGER'S HOUSE, PRETORIA.

ants from Berlin to aid him in the work. Amsterdam engineers built others of the defenses. After them came French engineers, and then those of Italy, so that the completed

these forts, the mysterious battery locations. When the forts were building workmen employed on one part of the structures were not allowed to work on another part. Sentries were posted at all the entrances. Knowledge of the details of the work was kept from all but the president and the commanding officers.

In external appearance the seven forts are alike. They have masonry faces, with earthwork which covers their fronts to a great depth. Pile upon pile of sandbags are stacked up wherever shells from the enemy might strike. There are many hidden recesses, secret passages, complete telephone connections—not only with each other, but with government buildings in Pretoria. Searchlights are mounted in each structure so as to command the surrounding country at night. The magazines are underground and are reported to be mined. Report has it also that the near approaches are mined and that the electrical construction is such that considerable portions of an enemy's army might be blown into eternity before surrender came. For food, in the event of siege, enormous quantities of maize have been accumulated—enough, it is said, to feed the army and the population of Pretoria for five years. The supply of ammunition is calculated to be sufficient for two years.

The center of the system of forts lies about 5500 feet to the westward of the northern end of Pretoria, and has a radius of something more than 7000 yards. The center of the city is only about 11,000 feet, nearly due south, on the fort on Signal Hill, which is about 400 feet above the plain on the west side of the railway to Johannesburg, and about 13,000 feet from the fort on the hill to the east of the railway and the Apies River running to the north. Between this fort and the river are the fountains that furnish the water supply of Pretoria. The distance between the forts on either side of the railway is 7100 feet. The railway station, where the lines from Johannesburg on the south, Delagoa Bay on the east and Pietersburg on the north form their junction, is immediately outside the city on the south side. The railway to Pietersburg, after winding some distance to the westward, passes out

The Boers call the ranges about Pretoria Magalies. The town was laid out after 1856 by them and named after Pretorius, one of their first and strongest leaders. He was the first President of the Republic and Commandant General of their army. The real growth of the town did not commence until after the victory at Majuba Hill in 1881. Johannesburg is the center and home of the Uitlanders—the nervous, adventurous element of the Transvaal. But Pretoria is essentially the center of the pastoral Boers. Tropical flowers and plants cover the valley in which it lies, and willows grow in every direction. Nearly all of the buildings are white in color. On the dome of the capitol is a golden statue of Liberty. The Witwatersrand mines, which yield \$100,000,000 annually, are but a short distance from the capitol. Howard C. Hillegas, in Harper's, mentions the universal prevalence of the bicycle in Pretoria, of the telephone and the electric car. The Boer congress—the volksraad—meets at Pretoria, and President Kruger has lived there for fifteen years. American goods are largely in evidence in the shops of the town, and the American shopman is already there in large numbers. Pre-



OOM PAUL'S BUILDING AT THE PARIS EXPOSITION.

torial does not and has not encouraged the presence of Englishmen, but Germans and Frenchmen are welcomed. The streets are broad and clean, the water supply fine and ample.

In spite of its bloody war with Great Britain the South African Republic had time to plan and complete a building at the Paris Exposition and to make it ready for the Transvaal exhibit. Every visitor to the great exposition will be specially interested in this display. The chief feature of the exhibit is a collection of native minerals, including the gold ores of the Rand and uncut diamonds. The exhibit also contains specimens of the agricultural industry of the Transvaal, such as fruits and cereals. A collection of hunting trophies, including the skins of lions, leopards and other wild animals, shows what the Boers have had to encounter in their marches north through the wilderness. The building has two stories, with a central tower and cupolas on the corners.

Drinking Water For Engineers.
To provide drinking water on locomotives a Southern man has designed a tank to fit in one side of the large water tank on the tender, the body of the small tank being surrounded by the water in the large tank to keep the drinking water cool.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

In males, the average weight of the full grown human brain is about forty-nine or fifty ounces; in females, forty-four ounces.

The Sahara Desert is not a barren waste, as is popularly supposed. Not long ago there were 9,000,000 sheep, 2,000,000 goats, and 260,000 camels in the Algerian Sahara alone; and the oases furnish a million and a half of date palms.

At the request of the General Land Office, Mr. Lester F. Ward recently explored the fossil forests of Arizona. The richest deposit of silicified trees covers an area of about eight miles square, in Apache County. In some parts of this area the petrified logs lie much more thickly than they could have stood while living, and Mr. Ward thinks they must have been transported by swift currents of water in the Mesozoic era. Microscopic inspection of the texture of the agatized wood proved that it resembled the araucarian pine of the Southern Hemisphere.

The meridian of Greenwich is generally accepted as the starting-line from which to reckon longitude and time all over the earth. But objections are, from time to time, raised against the universal adoption of the Greenwich meridian for such purposes. Recently Italian savants have emphasized these objections by pointing out that on the meridian of Greenwich clouds and bad weather are frequent, interfering with astronomical observations. They suggest that the civilized world should agree to adopt the meridian of Jerusalem as a common reference line, because there the skies are clearer, and the possibility of making Palestine neutral territory would eliminate political objections.

Deadly snakes are seldom seen moving about. This is to be accounted for in two ways. First, they are nocturnal in their habits and generally in repose when discovered. Secondly, if they should be on the move their colors are so much in harmony with their surroundings that they see the intruder first and gather themselves into a coil, so as to escape observation by remaining still and to be ready for defence if necessary. They always strike from a coil. As to the distance to which they can strike a great deal depends on the manner of the coil and the position of the object struck at. From a good position a snake can generally strike an object distant one-half or even two-thirds of the creature's length. No snake can jump, in the true sense of the word, and so long as one remains extended at full length it is practically harmless. In such a position it may be easily killed or avoided.

Mr. O. Bates at Washington has been making some interesting investigations on white oak bridge piles which were destroyed by worms. The oak was from Arkansas, and the experience was so unfavorable that no more piles from that region have been used since. Worms were found working through the surface of the ground to the depth of three feet, some of the piles being entirely eaten off about eighteen inches below the surface of the ground, and it was estimated that each pile contained from 100 to 500 of these worms. It is maintained that there is some peculiarity about the sap in the Arkansas oak that attracts these worms, as they do not attack the Northern oak. It is believed that any treatment after cutting the logs—sap impregnation or subjection to dry-kill seasoning—could not benefit these timbers, but if they were cut in winter (say, any time after September 15), and at once taken out of the woods to some dry yarding ground, they would have lasted as well as Wisconsin oak.

Tim's Success as a Beggar.
A pretty little incident marked the arrival of Queen Victoria at London on the occasion of her recent visit to the capital city, just after the turn of the war tide in South Africa. After the royal train came to a standstill there followed the inevitable delay pending the completion of the preparations by which the Queen was provided with an inclined platform to make it easier for her to walk from her saloon to the carriage in waiting. It was during this interval that the aged sovereign caught sight of the station dog "Tim," who was running about the trainshed.

He was gayly beribboned for the occasion, and by means of a cup under his chin was diligently "collecting" from the crowd contributions for the fund to assist the widows and orphans of the Great Western employees. The Queen asked his mission, and, upon being informed of it, caused him to be brought to the saloon of the train and thereupon dropped a sovereign in the collection box attached to his collar.—Philadelphia Press.

A "Mot" of General Joubert.
A French paper reports a good mot of the late General Joubert. When Natal was invaded much discussion took place in the Boer camp as to the wisdom of the General's strategy. A Free State officer remarked that the sudden attack upon English territory did not quite square with the enunciation of a lawyer, alluding to Joubert's old functions as a solicitor. "My friend," replied Joubert, "there is a great difference between a court of justice and a battlefield. In the former the advantage lies with him who has the last word; in the latter it lies with who strikes the first blow."

Those Dear Old Shoes.
A man's heart is generally where his old shoes are.—New York Press.

WHEN YOU WANT

Absolutely Pure Whiskey,

Direct from the Distillery, call on
THOMAS WELLS,
Glendale, Maryland.
Sole Importer of Pure Liquors, Beer, Wine,
Tobacco, Cigars, &c.

THE KENILWORTH STORE,

MRS. J. M. PARKER, Proprietor.
KENILWORTH, D. C.
Leave your order for Groceries,
Flour, Food or Holiday Goods. Every-
thing first-class.
GOODS DELIVERED FREE.

WM. J. LATIMER,

SURVEYOR,
27 MONROE ST., ANACOSTIA, D. C.

Subdivision of Suburban Property a
Specialty.

WANTED! WANTED!

Horses to Board.

Horses taken to board for the winter.
Terms very moderate. We call for and de-
liver horses on request. Apply to W. H.
Williams, Higgs Farm. Post-office address,
Chillum, Md.

B. F. CHINN,

Shaving & Hair-Dressing
—SALOON,—

East Side Maryland Ave.,
Hyattsville, Maryland.

EDWARD L. GIES,

Attorney - at - Law,
Rooms 22 and 23 Warder Building,
S. E. Cor. F and 9th Streets N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

THOMAS W. SMITH,

Lumber : Merchant,
SASH, DOORS, BLINDS, GLASS
AND MILL WORK.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
Office, 1st St. and Indiana Ave. N. W.
Mill, Foot 9th Street S. W.
Wharf, 4th St. Eastern Branch.

JOHN APPICH,

Beer, Whiskey
AND Wine Merchant,

1309 11TH STREET, S. E.
WASHINGTON, D. C.
Oakmont and Silver Brook Whiskies
—A SPECIALTY.—

C. A. T. WELLS, ROBERT M. WELLS,

WELLS & WELLS,
Attorneys at Law,
Fendall Building, opp. City Hall,
Telephone 1819. WASHINGTON, D. C.
Branch Offices: HYATTSVILLE, MD.
UPPER MALLBORO, MD.
Money Loaned on Maryland Real Estate.

50 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

PATENTS

TRADE MARKS
DESIGNS

Anyone sending a sketch and description may
quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an
invention is probably patentable. Communications
must be accompanied by a fee of \$1.00. No charge
sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents.
Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive
special notice without charge, in the

Scientific American.
A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest cir-
culation of any scientific journal. Terms, \$3 a
year; four months, \$1. Sold by all newsdealers.
MUNN & CO. 361 Broadway, New York
Branch Office, 635 F St., Washington, D. C.

THE SUBURBAN CITIZEN

is a permanent institution—a fixture at the National
Capital. Thousands and thousands of people can testify to
the good work it has accomplished during the past five
years in the line of suburban
improvement. It is the only
newspaper in the District of
Columbia that maintains a
punching bureau, whose duty
it is to punch up the authori-
ties and keep them awake to
the needs of the suburbs. On
that account it deserves and is
receiving substantial encour-
agement.

CRUSADO

INTERNAL
PILE CURE

A Perfect Cure. Purely Vegetable Tablets.
Speedy and permanent cure guaran-
teed or money refunded. The only inter-
nal remedy known to science. Indorse-
d by physicians and recommended by grate-
ful sufferers who have been cured after
having tried external remedies and surgi-
cal operations, and secured only tempo-
rary relief. We have thousands of tes-
timonials from well known people in all
parts of the country who have been cured.
Price \$1.00 per box postpaid. If you
can not get it from your druggist write
direct to

The Dr. Donald Wallace Co., Peoria